

Guatemala

Caregiver Name: Paola

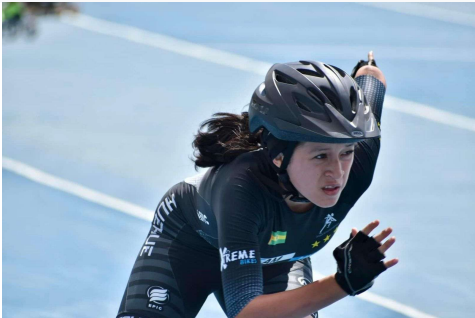
Age at Implantation: 18 months

Child: Abby

Age Today: 15 years

My name is Paola. My daughter is Abby. She's 15 years old and received a cochlear implant in her right ear at 18 months of age, and then in 2020 she got an implantation in her left ear. **Our biggest challenge was getting her to speak and catch up with other children her age.** We relied on speech therapists, and the school she started at just two years old. At home, as a family, we've given her all the support she's needed.

Her achievements have been academic: she's completed her school years without any setbacks. She's currently in her fourth year of high school, specializing in science and humanities. In sports, she practices speed skating.



We've always been willing to help those starting on this path of cochlear implants for their children. We've met with families to share how it worked for Abby.

The best advice I can give to other parents is to be persistent and very patient. It's a long road, and often the results are slow, but they do come.

We thank God for having achieved everything we have been able to do with Abby so far and for every person placed in our path to make it possible.